

eNews Alert



August 15, 2011

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New Timeline for RFP Selection and Other Agency Activities

During the State Government Shutdown in July all RFP activities were suspended and the timeline for review has now been adjusted. Selections and board approvals for RFP applications will be as follows:

- Consolidated Multifamily and Single Family RFPs - Thursday, November 17, 2011
- Homeowner Education Counseling and Training (HECAT) - Thursday, September 22, 2011
- Selection for the Rehabilitation Loan Program administrators remains as scheduled - Thursday, September 22, 2011
- Affordable Housing Plan Approval - Thursday, October 27, 2011

2011 Legislative Session Update

Minnesota Housing's state appropriation budget was signed into law by Governor Dayton on July 20, just a few hours after a short Special Session concluded in which all remaining budget bills were passed by the House and Senate. With a \$5 billion state budget deficit, Minnesota Housing received a 6.3% appropriation reduction. Although the final FY2012-2013 agency budget of \$76.096 million is less than the governor's recommendation, it is higher than the House and Senate conference committee recommended. [Read the 2011 Legislative Summary.](#)

Housing Feedback Needed

The State of Minnesota, through its Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), Department of Human Services (DHS), and Minnesota Housing, are researching two areas in the state in order to make plans and review policies. You are welcome to complete one or both surveys and to forward on to others. Descriptions of each survey are below the titles/links to the survey. Please click the title to go to the survey.

Your individual comments will remain anonymous and will be compiled with all other responses by an outside vendor. Western Economic Services (WES) is the firm conducting the study on behalf of the State. Please email [Jim Cegla](mailto:Jim.Cegla@mn.gov) if you have any questions about these surveys.

Housing and Community Development:

DEED, DHS and Minnesota Housing are developing a five-year plan for housing and community development. The plan will guide housing and community development policy and actions related to housing, economic development, public facility and infrastructure over the next several years. Known as the “Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development,” the study is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The planning process is intended to help the State provide decent housing, expand economic opportunities and provide a suitable living environment. The plan depends on the opinions and experiences of people who are knowledgeable about housing and community development in Minnesota. Comments gathered during this survey will be used to create narratives for inclusion in the Consolidated Plan.

Fair Housing:

The State of Minnesota is conducting a statewide study regarding impediments to fair housing choice. Known as the “Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice,” the study is required by HUD.

The goal of the research is to identify whether barriers and adverse policies exist in a variety of housing arenas including rentals and sales, lending, insurance, and the public sector. The success of the study depends on the opinions and experiences of people who are knowledgeable about housing and fair housing compliance issues.